

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Office Action dated 28 March 2008. Responsive to the objections and rejections made in the Official Action, Claims 1, 3, 14, 16 and 19 have been amended; Claims 2 and 17-18 have been canceled.

The Examiner rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lotspiech, et al. U.S. patent 6,650,753 and in view of Rolf Blom ("An Optimal Class of Symmetric key generation systems" 1998). Claims 13 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lotspiech, et al. in view of Rolf Blom and in view of Huitema, et al. U.S. Patent 7,068,789. Additionally Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lotspiech, et al. in view of Rolf Blom and in view of Kasahara, et al. Patent 6,788,788. Finally, Claim 22 was also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lotspiech, et al. in view of Rolf Blom in view of Huitema, et al. and in view of Kasahara, et al.

The Examiner has indicated that Claims 2-12, 14, 17 and 19-21 were objected to for being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant graciously acknowledges the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. To that end Claims 1 and 16 have been amended in the interest of advancing the prosecution of this case, given the

Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. Further, this Amendment is being made without addressing the merits of the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Since the limitations of Claims 2 and 17 have been included within the independent Claims upon which they were respectively dependent, and acknowledging the Examiner's statement as to allowable subject matter, it is believed that the subject Application has now been placed in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

If there are any further charges associated with this filing, the Honorable Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account #18-2011 for such charges.

Respectfully submitted,
For: ROSENBERG, KLEIN & LEE



Morton J. Rosenberg
Registration #26,049

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Suite 101
3458 Ellicott Center Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410) 465-6678
Customer No. 04586